sessions, when the penalty inflicted is above 50*l*. This should be extended to all cases, whatever the amount of penalty may be.

Page 72.—*Openings in Party Walls.*—Your committee still think that the whole thickness of the walls in which the doors occur would be a sufficient distance for all practical purposes.

Page 72.—*Roofs.*—It is suggested that if curb roofs are proscribed, it would be well to enact that doors of exit should be provided in roofs, as otherwise a most important means of escape from fire will be taken away.

Schedule C, Part 7.—The recommendation of our report is to a considerable extent adopted, by giving power to official referee to allow of a *detached* green-house being built of any form; but it is suggested that the district surveyor might well be entrusted with this discretion, and would be a more accessible officer, as the official referee will have plenty of work, within a circle of sixteen miles diameter, without this.

Schedule D, Part 1, Page 75.—The word *squared* would be better omitted as not necessary, involving a small matter of detail that might interfere with the use of very unobjectionable materials; as, for instance, it would prevent the use of flints, and all rubble masonry.

Walls generally.—The footings to spread equally on both sides would be injurious, and useless, where an external wall is built against one already in existence, when it would involve loss of ground.

Part 2.—*External Walls.*—Here again the word squared had better be omitted, and some such general phrase as "incombustible materials" substituted. This is one of those restrictions which would interfere with improvements. The latter part of this clause would prevent the use of wood lintels, unless with discharging arches over them, but this is not objectionable.†

Breastsummers.—The imposition of a detached story-post involves unnecessary expense and great inconvenience; indeed, in the public thoroughfares, where the largest surface of glass is the great object of the shopkeeper, the value of property would be deteriorated, and this applies equally to the return piers which are allowed in this print of the Bill.

Schedule D, Part 3.—*Division of Buildings.*—It is again urged that this clause ought not to have a retrospective operation.

Part 3.—*Party Walls.*—Construction and materials: the same observations apply as to the last clause.

Openings in Party Walls.—Those are now allowed in houses of any rate; but the good of this extension will be virtually neutralized by the walls being required to be such as are provided extra first-rates, when the joint area exceeds fourteen squares. This size will be almost certainly passed by the junction of any two houses, and the walls of first-rates would be abundantly strong.

Recesses and Chases.—These may be made anywhere, but the same objection applies here as to greenhouses, and it is recommended that they be placed under the superintendence of the district surveyor.

Party Fence Walls.—This requires defining more clearly.

Schedule F.—*Construction.*—The Act nowhere prescribes which is to be considered the first, second, or third story; and without this, this clause is not intelligible.

The prevention of the construction of new chimneys, unless their foundations are carried down, is still unaltered and most objectionable. The general arrangement of the better class of dwellings renders new chimneys almost imperative, immediately above the principal or one-pair floor of the house, which is usually allotted to the reception rooms; and if the supports of these chimneys are to come through the best rooms, much space will be occupied unnecessarily, and a heavy needless expense entailed; this also applies with equal force to houses the ground-floors of which are occupied as shops or warehouses; it is therefore strongly recommended, as in the last report, that this portion of the clause be expunged, and this is the more confidently pressed, because no case has been made out to require such a regulation, and its practical operation would be to prevent the construction of fire-places in upper rooms, and to this extent diminish their healthiness.

Dimension and Materials.—It is suggested that flues for smoke, if of metal, might be allowed as small as 4½ inches in diameter, and need not be so large as 8½ inches in diameter, this limit being the new feature of this clause.

Steam-Engines.—Shafts are to be regulated by official referee. This applies to buildings connected with machinery in which constant improvements are occurring. Small engines are frequently worked with common dwelling-house flues; and large engines are constructed by the most skilful engineers, whom it does not appear necessary or desirable to subject to this control.

Fees for Special Duties.—Cutting away of chimney-breasts: first and extra first-rate is 2*l*. 2s., but third and fourth-rates, 3*l*. 3s.: this must be a clerical error.

Chimney-pots, Tubes, &c.—This clause is altogether needless, and, as it now stands, somewhat absurd, as it prescribes that every pot must be fixed two feet into the brickwork in which it stands, a depth that in most instances would bury the ordinary chimney-pot.

Schedule H.—*Cesspools and Privies.*—This clause is needless, and could not be carried out without producing much private inconvenience, without any sufficient public benefit.

Schedule I.—*Carriage-way and Footway.*—It seems to be quite unnecessary to prescribe how the streets, &c. shall be paved, as this is in all cases sufficiently provided for by the local boards of pavements, and the requirements of each case can be better met by those who have the necessary local knowledge.

Entrances to Alleys must be Two.—This may be impossible, and if it were considered desirable cannot be made imperative, as the abuttal on other property may quite preclue it, and it would be unjust to prevent the use of ground for buildings, only because it may not be possible to give access to both ends.

Schedule K.—*Back Yards.*—This clause is somewhat modified, but still objectionable, and it appears to be oppressive that in the denser parts of the metropolis, and those most valuable, this back area should be made compulsory—there is added to this clause, however, a new paragraph, curiously characteristic of the specification-like form of some of these schedules, which prescribes that every first-class building must have such a roadway to it as will admit a *scavenger's* cart. The effect of which would however be to prevent the construction of any alley.

Lowermost Rooms.—The provision requiring 6 feet (out of a surface of 9 feet, the size prescribed) for a window to open, would prevent the use of sash windows of the ordinary construction; it is therefore suggested that 4½ feet, or one-half the surface, should be substituted.

Attic Rooms.—This is a matter of detail, unnecessary, and not of sufficient importance to be retained; it is therefore recommended that it be expunged.

Schedule L.—*Fees for Special Duties*, page 86.—There appears to be a clerical error here, as the fees for low rates are larger than those for the higher.

In conclusion, your committee advert with pleasure to the improvement which marks each step of this measure; though they cannot but regret that a more enlarged and comprehensive view of the whole subject has not been taken, by which a wide and important general measure might be obtained, applicable to all buildings, and which might be made available, like the proposed power of extension of this Act, by an Order in Council, wherever the number of inhabitants of any given place exceed a defined number, with prescribed limits; and after the laborious investigation of the voluminous Bills which have been proposed, they are more and more convinced of the truth and justice of the remarks made in their report in an earlier stage of this business, 7th March, 1842, which they therefore repeat:—

"The excitement of public attention to this subject seems to suggest that the present is an opportunity which should not be allowed to pass without maturely considering how far it is practicable and desirable to form one general and comprehensive measure for the regulation of buildings, which may apply throughout the country, and so come into operation at once, wherever new neighbourhoods may arise, as in the case of Wolverton, on the London and Birmingham Railroad; or large additions made to towns already in existence, as in case of Kingston, on the South Western R road; containing such precautions against spread of fire as have been found by long perience to be salutary in the metropol giving general powers and direction as to width and continuity of public streets ways, and general limits as to projections, without infringing upon any of the spec regulations of local boards now existing, having the management of any particular trict of pavement or roadway; at the sa time, avoiding whatever would unnecessa increase expenses of the smaller classes dwellings, and making all provisions general in their character, as to admit adaptation to the varying circumstances different building materials of each seve neighbourhood or county."

THOMAS PITER, Jun., Hon. Sec.

June 13, 1844.

† [And would virtually put out of use the restored masonry of the middle ages, such as lately used at the new church, Broadway, Westminster.—ED.]

COLLECTIONS TOWARDS A GLOSSAI OF ARCHITECTURE.—No. VII.

COLUMN.—"A tapering cylindrical ma placed vertically on a level stylobate, in so cases with a spreading congeries of mouldin called a base, and having always at its upp and smaller end a dilating mass called capital." (Hosking.) Mr. Gwilt describes column as "generally any body which suppo another in a vertical direction."* (Ency p. 954.) Some writers consider that the te *column* should only be applied when the sha consists of a single block of stone, marble, other material, and that when the shaft formed of several courses it should be term a *pillar*, from the Greek πίλος, "to brit together." Others again confine the wo column to those which are circular on the plan, and apply the term pillar to square polygonal supports.

The word is derived from the Latin *columna* which appears from Quintilian to have bee by the ancients pronounced *columa*, and th leads one to think that it may be traced t the Greek κώλυμα, impedimentum, prohibitio from the verb κώλυω, prohibio, impedio, arceo and as the latter word signifies to hold fast, t strain or tie hard, to keep in or hold togethe to keep from, to save or protect, as well as t stop or to hinder, to debar, so a column ma be truly said to support or keep a buildin from falling, to be a stay or prop.

"Do I look like a cudgel, or a hovel-post, staff, or a prop?" SHAKSPEARE.

The column is the most important membe in architecture, and indeed no building whether ancient or modern, into which co lumnar arrangements are not introduced, ca be strictly classed among architectural com positions.

Columns are as various in their proportion as in their shapes and the uses to which the were applied. In those orders, however, whic are called the classic orders, on which th Greeks first stamped the impress of genius the proportions of columns are reduced t nearly an unvarying scale of rule.

In the earlier specimens of architecture, a among the Indians and Egyptians, less regularity is observed, and it is not unusual in some of their temples to find that no two column are alike. The columns in the Indian excavated temples are sometimes polygonal, sometimes round, seldom tapering, but always massive, and of few diameters in height. They are seldom plain, their shafts being usually formed into vertical reedings, frequently divided by horizontal rings like the hoops of barrels; in this respect they resemble the columns of Egyptian temples, and, like them, have capitals of cushion-like and vase-shaped forms carved into imitations of the foliage peculiar to the countries.

The Egyptian columns were of colossal dimensions and thickly set together; the outer court of the great temple at Carnac contained,

* The proper term is *a conical, or a conoidal* mass, rising from a platform: columns are rarely cylindrical, and if tapering with straight sides, are conical; they are frequently not placed perpendicularly, and in truth should very rarely be so placed, but leaning inwardly at their heads, they so gain both stability and elegance of effect, especially in circular buildings.—ED.]

For a comprehensive guide on OCR and PDF Compression visit ThePaperlessOffice.org